



Helen C. Nickel

February 23, 1923 - March 11, 2018

Helen C. Nickel, 95, Kearney, passed away peacefully in her Northridge apartment March 11, 2018. Memorial services will be 11:00 a.m., March 14, 2018 at First United Methodist Church in Kearney with Pastor Melody Adams officiating. Private family burial will be at Kearney Cemetery. Visitation is from 5:00 to 7:00 pm, March 13, 2018 at Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl Funeral and Cremation Services. Memorials are suggested to the First United Methodist Church or Kearney Area Community Foundation.

Helen Claire (Wickard) Nickel, the eldest of five children of J.C. and Lucille (Thorton) Wickard, was born on February 23, 1923 on a farm near Sumner, Nebraska. She graduated from Lexington High School in 1940. Helen attended Kearney State College for one year where she completed a business course.

On December 1, 1945, Helen was united in marriage to Duane Nickel. The couple lived in Lexington, NE, before moving to the Nickel family farm south of Kearney, NE. They lived on the farm until 1990 when they moved to Kearney. They were blessed with four children, Nancy, Douglas, Dirk and David.

Personal relationship, especially with family and friends, served as cornerstones for Helen's life. She took great delight in traveling with Duane and rooting for the Huskers every fall. She and Duane also enjoyed attending

their children's and grandchildren's many and varied activities.

Helen made and maintained longtime friendships in various groups. She was an active member of the Kearney First United Methodist Church, the Newark Extension Club, and a neighborhood birthday club. When she moved to Northridge, she enjoyed making new friends with residents and staff of the facility.

Helen served as Duane's care giver during his 15-year struggle with Parkinson Disease. He passed away in 2002.

She is survived by her daughter, Nancy and husband Bert Fuller of Auburn, NE; Doug and wife Sharon Nickel of Meadow Lakes, TX, Dirk and wife Angela Nickel of Kearney, and David and wife Wendy Nickel of Kearney; four grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews and many, many friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Duane Nickel, brothers, Morris and Dean Wickard, sisters Fanny Joann Wickard and Donna Marshall.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 13. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl
2421 Avenue A
Kearney, NE 68847
(308) 237-2259
<https://www.hlmkfuneral.com>

Memorial Service

MAR 14. 11:00 AM (CT)

First united Methodist Church
4500 Linden Drive
Kearney, NE 68847

Tribute Wall



“ *Helen is my aunt! I have nothing but the greatest memories of her.* ”

Kirk Wickard - November 07, 2024 at 12:54 PM



“ *Helen C. Nickel* ”

January 29, 2023 at 11:14 AM



“ *Helen was a great friend. Always greeted us with a smile and a handshake. She was a very positive person.* ”

Buss and Carolynn Biehl

carolynn biehl - March 13, 2018 at 05:56 PM



“ *Jeff and Teresa Fields purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Helen C. Nickel.* ”



Jeff and Teresa Fields - March 13, 2018 at 11:23 AM



“ *Mike and Marg Coulter purchased the Sapphire Sapphires Bouquet for the family of Helen C. Nickel.* ”



Mike and Marg Coulter - March 13, 2018 at 09:01 AM

BO

“ *Bill and Gail Fuller, Scott and Kathy Kral, Stephanie Fuller, Bill & Diane Fuller, Tait & Nicole Olson purchased the Garden of Memories for the family of Helen C. Nickel.*



Bill and Gail Fuller, Scott and Kathy Kral, Stephanie Fuller, Bill & Diane Fuller, Tait & Nicole Olson - March 12, 2018 at 10:46 PM

PH

“ *Pipperts and Hausermans purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Helen C. Nickel.*



Pipperts and Hausermans - March 12, 2018 at 09:21 PM

CB

“ *Helen always had a smile on her face and she knew everyone by name....she will be missed at all the Kearney High sporting events.... she was an avid fan.... she will be missed by many....she was a great soul !!!*
The Bacons

Dave, Coleen, Autin and Dane & Taylor :)

Coleen Bacon - March 12, 2018 at 04:14 PM

JK

“ *Helen was always the most caring and thoughtful person I have ever known! Such a sweet and classy lady!! Now she can spend her eternal life with Nick*❤️
Thinking of all of you! Jodi Hehnke Kreikemeier

Jodi Kreikemeier - March 12, 2018 at 12:52 AM